(d) the time by which these are likely to be telecast from Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d) One serial on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar submitted in 1991 by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Andhra Pradesh has been approved by Doordarshan. The serial will be slotted for telecast after a stay order of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on the telecast of serials under the New Sponsored Serials Scheme by DDK, Hyderabad is vacated.

Reconstitution of Central Board for Film Certification

2323. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the term of the Central Board for Film Certification ended in October, 1994, but the new Board has still not been announced as reported in the Indian Express dated 4th March, 1995;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of members of this Board from the existing 25 to 35;

(c) if so, whether more women are expected to be represented on this Board alongwith representatives from the film industry; and

(d) if so, by when the new CBFC is likely to be constituted indicating any amendments likely to be made in the existing guidelines against excessive vulgarity and violence in films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATON AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Central Board of Film Certification was last constituted with effect from 7.10.91 until further orders.

(b) Under section 3(1) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 the maximum number of members in the Board shall be 25, apart from Chairman. The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 1992, current with the Standing Committee on Communications, seeks to enhance the maximum number of members from 25 to 35.

(c) and (d) Action has been initiated to reconstitute the Board, giving due representation to women. There is not proposal to amend the existing guidelines.

Relay of Muslim Television Ahmadian Programmes

2324. SHRI S. MADHVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the satellite television called Muslim Television Ahmadian MTA bearing its programmes from London which are received in India; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken to control such private television telecasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATON AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) The various steps taken by Doordarshan to counter the programmes received through foreign satellites are (i) Restructuring of its various programmes; (ii) starting of an external services; and (iii) expansion of its terrestrial network.

American Satellite Service

2325. SHRI S. MADHAVAN.: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the daily Hindu dated 16th Februrary, 1995 about the plans to launch a satellite TV service by an American company in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the proposal of the American company; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the programmes that will be telecast by the American company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATON AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a): This Ministry has seen the report in question carried by 'The Hindu'.

(b) No such proposal has been received.

(c) Does not arise.